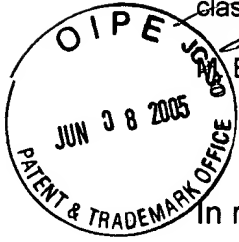


I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the US PTO via USPS with sufficient first-class postage on June 7, 2005.



Elisa Lane

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

MERRIL et al.

Application No.: 09/816,289

Filed: March 23, 2001

Docket No.: PNC-001

Group Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: S. Gucker

Title: METHODS FOR TREATING NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES
INCLUDING ALZHEIMER'S

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents
Box Amendment
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

June 7, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004, the period for response being extended by the attached Petition, please reconsider the above-captioned application for allowance in view of the following remarks.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.